

Inclusion Policies for Index to Chiropractic Literature Adopted August 2006

Highest Priority for Indexing

Highest priority for comprehensive indexing in ICL is given to:

1. Peer reviewed English language chiropractic journals, produced by the chiropractic profession, in print and/or electronic formats.
2. Chiropractic journals that are not peer reviewed but that have the following qualities: most articles have lasting value for researchers; authorship of the articles is clearly stated; and most articles contain references.
3. The chiropractic journals must be distributed and/or easily accessible to subscribers internationally.

Selection criteria for articles indexed in ICL

The scope of ICL comprehensive (cover-to-cover) indexing is as follows:

Includes articles, editorials, letters (unless too short or general), reviews of any type of materials, obituaries, and meeting proceedings. Includes college news and announcements only if they are of lasting value (e.g., a new college president but not homecoming, alumni, or alumni continuing education events).

Excludes routine news and announcements, news digests, letters which are too short or general, abstracts of individual papers published elsewhere in full, and short Question and Answer columns.

ICL indexers' consider the following guidelines in order to determine if an individual article is peer reviewed, regardless of the status of the parent journal.

- Letters, editorials, articles lacking an author, informally written popular works (consumer audience) and most other articles lacking references will not be designated as peer reviewed in material indexed after 2005.
- The "Limit to peer review" function in ICL should result in retrieval of articles suitable for citing in research papers and in practitioners' communication with other health professionals and insurers in material indexed after 2005.

Future Priorities for Indexing

Future priorities, as time and funding permit, may include comprehensive or selective indexing of:

1. Peer reviewed literature by or about chiropractic published in journals with a wider scope than chiropractic, but which have significant contributions by chiropractors and/or significant presence of chiropractors on editorial boards.
2. Peer reviewed English language chiropractic journals, produced by the chiropractic profession from 1980-1984, and then, similar literature before 1980.
3. Chiropractic newspapers with broad coverage and national distribution.
4. Chiropractic or chiropractic related conference proceedings published independently of journals that contain full text of papers and are available to libraries as well as attendees.
5. Chiropractic or chiropractic related conference proceedings that contain only abstracts of presentations and are available to libraries as well as attendees.
6. Chiropractic State association publications containing articles of lasting value to a national audience.
7. Selective indexing of popular magazines intended for chiropractic professionals and patients that fit the following criteria:
 - durable practical articles such as how-to articles (how to write a business plan, narratives, case reports; how to hire and train staff; office design with significant how-to information)
 - timely practical articles on practice management (insurance, HMOs, electronic billing, HIPAA, taxes)
 - how to invest revenue
 - profiles of private practices
 - promotional pieces
 - question & answer columns
8. Non-English language chiropractic publications in Latin characters.

Excluded Currently

Excluded for the foreseeable future are:

1. Selective indexing of articles by or about chiropractic published in non-peer-reviewed journals with a wider scope than chiropractic and related disciplines, particularly if they are included in another widely available index.

2. Publications consisting primarily of regional news, proprietary content, news of parent organization, advertising, announcements and/or ephemera.

Notice

The editors of the *Index to Chiropractic Literature* and the CLIBCON Index Committee reserve the right to revise criteria for inclusion, and to add or deselect a title for inclusion in *ICL* at any time.

More about Peer Reviewed status

The ICL editors look at the following sources in order to determine if a journal is peer reviewed.

- A description of the journal's peer review process in its instructions to authors or manuscript submission guidelines
- Notice of an independent editorial review board in the journal's front matter. The academic or scholarly affiliation of each member of the board must be identified. (Those without affiliations are presumed not to be independent.)
- List developed by the Chiropractic Research Journal Editors' Council

Other Information

Users of ICL should be aware that:

- Some journals with scholarly content do not use the peer review process.
- Some journal publishers do not disclose the peer review process.
- Publishers may choose to use peer review only for some types of articles in a journal.
- There are many types of peer review, such as blind peer review, double blind peer review, editorial board review, and expert peer review.
- There are journal review boards of varying composition, such as boards with affiliated and/or independent editors.
- The process of peer review can change over time for any publication.